1 2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 CASE NO. CR 11 Plaintiff(s), 12 13 **DISCOVERY AND TRIAL ORDER IN** CRIMINAL CASES BEFORE JUDGE ٧. S. JAMES OTERO UNITED STATES 14 **DISTRICT COURT** 15 Defendant(s). 16 READ THIS ORDER CAREFULLY. 17 IT CONTROLS THIS CASE AND 18 19 DIFFERS IN SOME RESPECTS FROM THE LOCAL RULES. 20 This case has been assigned to the calendar of The Honorable S. James Otero. To obviate 21 unnecessary motions for discovery in criminal actions, proceedings, matters, or cases assigned 22 to the undersigned Court for trial, the Court notes the following: 23 1. Court Hours: Criminal motions are heard on MONDAY at 10:00 a.m., unless the Court 24 orders otherwise. (If Monday is a holiday, the next motion date is Tuesday following the 25 Monday holiday.) It is not necessary to clear a motion date. Motions in limine are heard on Tuesday, on the FIRST DAY OF TRIAL, at 9:00 a.m. 26 27 **Location**: Judge Otero's courtroom is located in Room 1600, United States District Court, 2.

312 North Spring Street, 16th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012.

- **Telephone Inquiries**: Telephone inquiries regarding the status of a motion, stipulation or proposed order are NOT returned.
 - Counsel may, however, sign-up for Pacer access to monitor the clerk's database.
 See www.cacd.uscourts.gov > General Information > Pacer Access.
 - Counsel are referred to the clerk's website at www.cacd.uscourts.gov > Judges'
 Procedures and Schedules > Hon. S. James Otero for further information regarding the Court's preferences.
- 4. Communication with Chambers: If counsel is requesting information that can be obtained from the Court's 24-hour automated calling system or internet website at www.cacd.uscourts.gov, such call will not be returned.
 - a. For the 24-hour automated calling system, please call the appropriate number below:
 - i. Western Division at Los Angeles (213) 894-1565;
 - ii. Eastern Division at Riverside (909) 328-4450; or
 - iii. Southern Division at Santa Ana (714) 338-4750.
 - b. Counsel may access the Court's website for local rules, filing procedures, judges' procedures and schedules, calendars, forms, and other information. Counsel are not to initiate telephone calls to Judge Otero's chambers, law clerks or secretary. However, if counsel need to contact the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, Victor Cruz, Mr. Cruz may be reached at (213) 894-1796 or via e-mail at victor_cruz@cacd.uscourts.gov.
 - c. Counsel are ordered to list their facsimile transmission number along with their address, telephone number, and e-mail address on all papers submitted to the Court in order to facilitate communication by the Court.
- 5. Calendar Conflicts: If there is a calendar conflict, counsel are to inform the Courtroom Deputy Clerk prior to the date of the conflict and are to follow the Local Rules and Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

- **6. Transcripts**: To order a transcript, counsel are to call the Court Reporter's Office at (213) 894-3015.
- 7. Courtesy Copies: Counsel are ordered to provide conformed courtesy copies without envelopes of all motions, oppositions, and replies. Documents are to be placed in the drop-box outside the courtroom on the 16th floor, United States District Court, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012 by 5:00 p.m. (PST) on the day of the filing. Further, counsel are ordered to e-mail courtesy copies of all trial documents to the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, Victor Cruz.

8. Discovery and Discovery Cut-Off:

- a. Counsel for the government and counsel for defendant shall comply promptly with discovery and notice pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 12, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 15, and 16.
- b. Discovery by Defendant: Within seven (7) days of the trial setting of any criminal action, proceeding, matter or case, the United States Attorney, or an Assistant United States Attorney, and the defendant's attorney shall meet and confer, and upon request of the attorney for the defendant, the government shall provide defendant's attorney with:
 - i. **Statement of Defendant**: The government shall disclose to defendant's attorney its intent to use any statements or confessions made by the defendant. If defendant questions the admissibility of such statement or confession, the hearing required by *Jackson v. Denno*, 378 U.S. 368 (1964), shall be held on the day of trial prior to the opening statements of counsel. The government shall permit defendant's attorney to inspect and copy or photograph any relevant written or recorded statements or confessions made by the defendant, or copies thereof, within the possession, custody or control of the government, the existence of which is known, or may become known, to the attorney for the government. The government shall advise defendant's attorney of the substance of an oral statement available to the government in response to any interrogation by an employee or agent of any

governmental agency, local, state, or federal, or private source involved in the investigation or reporting of the offense(s) charged in the information/indictment.

- ii. Reports or Examinations and Tests: The government shall permit defendant's attorney to inspect and copy or photograph any relevant results or reports of physical or mental examinations, and of specific tests or experiments made in connection with the case, or copies thereof, within the possession, custody or control of the government, the existence of which is known, or may become known, to the attorney for the government and which are material to the defendant's case.
- iii. **Testimony Before the Grand Jury**: The government shall permit defendant's attorney to inspect and copy or photograph any relevant recorded testimony of the defendant before a grand jury.
- iv. **Documents and Tangible Objects**: The government shall permit defendant's attorney to inspect and copy or photograph books, papers, documents, tangible objects, buildings or places which are the property of the defendant and which are within the possession, custody or control of the government.
- v. **Prior Record**: The government shall make known to defendant's attorney the defendant's prior criminal record in the possession of the attorney for the government.
- vi. **Evidence Favorable to the Defendant**: The government shall permit defendant's attorney to inspect, copy or photograph any evidence favorable to the defendant.
- vii. **Electronic Surveillance**: The government shall advise defendant's attorney of the existence or non-existence of any evidence in the possession of the government obtained as the result of any electronic surveillance or wiretap.

- viii. **Informers**: The government shall advise defendant's attorney of the contemplated use of informer testimony (fact of informer only, not name or testimony).
- ix. **Brady Material**: The government shall permit defendant's attorney to inspect and copy or photograph all material within the purview of *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963) and *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972).
- x. Expert Witnesses: The government shall permit defendant's attorney to inspect and copy or photograph a written resume of the qualifications of any expert witness which the United States Attorney intends to call in the case in chief together with a statement of the substance of such expert's expected testimony.
- c. If, in the judgment of the United States Attorney, it would not be in the interest of justice to make any one or more disclosures set forth in paragraph (b) and requested by defendant's counsel, disclosure may be declined, and defense counsel is advised to immediately bring a formal noticed motion to the Court.

d. **Discovery by Government**:

- i. Expert Witnesses: The defendant's attorney shall at the conference disclose to the United States Attorney a written resume of the qualifications of any expert witness which the defendant intends to call in his case in chief together with a statement of the substance of such expert's expected testimony.
- ii. **Scientific or Medical Reports**: The defendant's attorney shall at the conference disclose to the United States Attorney the results (original or a copy) of any scientific or medical report which defendant intends to use in the presentation of his case in chief.
- iii. **Defense of Alibi**: The United States Attorney shall at the conference notify defendant in writing of the specific time, date and place at which the

offense/offenses charged in the information/indictment is/are alleged to have been committed.

- (1) Defendant shall in writing, within three (3) days thereafter, notify the United States Attorney of the specific place at which he claims to have been at the time of the alleged offense/offenses to which a defense of alibi will be addressed and the names and addresses of the witnesses upon whom he intends to establish such alibi.
- (2) Within five (5) days thereafter or such other time as the Court may direct, the United States Attorney shall inform the defendant of the names and addresses of the witnesses upon whom the government intends to establish defendant's presence at the scene of the alleged offense/offenses.
- (3) Failure to comply with the time limits set forth herein shall invoke the sanction provided in Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 12.1(d).
- iv. **Defense Based on Mental Condition**: The defendant's attorney shall at the conference disclose to the United States Attorney in writing that the defendant will rely upon the defense of insanity at the time of the alleged crime, or of mental disease, defect or other condition bearing upon whether he had the mental state required for the offense/offenses charged.
 - (1) Notice of such claimed defense shall also be filed with the Clerk.
 - (2) Failure to give such notification in writing shall involve the sanctions set forth in Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure Rule 12.2(d).
- v. **Entrapment**: The defendant's attorney shall at the conference disclose to the United States Attorney that defendant will rely on the defense of the procurement of government employees or agents to commit the offense/offenses charged in the information/indictment.

- e. **Report of Conference**: Within five (5) days of the completion of the conference required herein, the parties shall file a Joint Statement:
 - i. That the prescribed conference was held;
 - ii. The date of the said conference;
 - iii. The name of the Assistant United States Attorney with whom the conference was held;
 - iv. The contested matters of discovery and inspection and any additional discovery or inspection desired by the defendant;
 - v. The fact of disclosure of all material favorable to the defendant or the absence thereof within the meaning of *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963) and related cases;
 - vi. The resolution of foundational objections to documentary evidence proposed to be used by both parties (except for the purposes of impeachment);
 - vii. The resolution of chain of custody (where in issue); and
 - viii. The resolution of the admissibility of scientific analysis without need of calling the expert at the trial.
- f. **Continuing Duty of Counsel**: Any duty of disclosure and discovery set forth herein is a continuing one.
- g. Objections to Evidence: Unless specific objection to the evidentiary foundation of any document, photograph, book, paper, or other tangible object disclosed by the required conference of counsel is made in the report to the Court hereafter required to be filed, it shall be deemed that the requirement of foundation (including chain of custody) for the introduction of such evidence at trial is waived.
 - i. If a report produced at the required conference of counsel contains the result of a scientific test, performed by a competent expert witness (as shown by a resume) is not objected to in the report to the Court hereafter required to be filed, an objection to the admissibility of said report in lieu of the testimony

of the expert performing such scientific test shall be deemed to have been waived.

- h. This order is not intended to preclude discovery by the government pursuant to Rule16(c) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- It shall be the joint duty of counsel for the defendant and the United States Attorney to schedule and hold the conference contemplated herein.
 - i. The United States Attorney shall assure time and availability for such conference within the time herein provided unless the discovery conference is waived in writing by defendant and his counsel and such waiver is filed with the Court.
 - ii. Counsel for defendant shall (1) have reviewed all the disclosures made and received, and (2) had sufficient discussion with his/her client and the United States attorney by the time of the first status conference with the Court to enable counsel to meaningfully discuss with the Court at said status conference the disposition and likelihood of trial of this case.
 - iii. The government shall be represented at all status conferences with the Court by the Assistant United States Attorney who is assigned to the trial of the case, and who is most knowledgeable about the aforesaid matters, as well as any other matters scheduled for discussion with the Court at the status conferences.
- j. The Clerk is ordered to serve a copy of this Order personally or by mail on all counsel for parties to this action.

9. Trial

a. Last Conference Prior to Trial: Before trial commences, the Court will give counsel an opportunity to discuss administrative matters and anticipated procedural or legal problems. At that time, we will discuss voir dire procedures, Batson objections, and any unusual factors. Counsel for the government shall bring to the meeting the Attached Trial Witness Estimate Form which all counsel should have

- filled in. In the event defendant's counsel has not provided estimates for crossexamination, she or he will have to do so at the Last Conference.
- b. Counsel shall arrive at the courtroom thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled trial time on the first day of trial.
- c. Defense counsel MUST present appropriate number of copies of exhibits for all parties to the action.
- d. Counsel for the government shall present the Courtroom Deputy Clerk with the following documents on the first day of trial:
 - i. **Three (3) copies** of the government's witness list.
 - ii. **Three (3) copies** of the government's exhibit list in the form specified in Local Rule 9.9 (Civil).
 - iii. **All of the government's exhibits**, with official exhibit tags attached and bearing the same number shown on the exhibit list.
 - (1) Defendant's counsel does not have to deliver his or her exhibits to the Courtroom Deputy Clerk on the first day of trial; however, defendant's counsel is responsible for affixing completed exhibit tags with the case name and case number to his or her exhibits which are intended to be used in the defendant's case.
 - (2) Exhibit tags can be obtained from the receptionist in the main Clerk's Office, located at 312 North Spring Street, Room G-8.
 - (3) Exhibits shall be numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, etc., NOT 1.1, 1.50, etc. Counsel for both (all) sides should agree on the range of numbers to be assigned (e.g., Government exhibits to be 1-99, Defendant One to be 100-199; Defendant Two 200-299, etc.) If a blow up is an enlargement of an existing exhibit, it shall be designated with the number of the original exhibit followed by an "A".
 - (4) Counsel for the government should be aware that the Court will order that exhibits such as firearms, narcotics, etc., remain in the custody

of the agent(s) during the pendency of the trial. The agent(s) will be required to sign the appropriate form in order to take custody of such exhibits. It shall be the responsibility of the agent(s) to produce said items for the Court, secure them at night and guard them at all times while in the courtroom.

- iv. A **Bench Book** containing a copy of all exhibits that can be reproduced.
 - (1) Each exhibit shall be tabbed with the exhibit number for easy referral.
 Defendant's counsel shall provide the Court with a copy of their exhibits as they are introduced during trial.
- v. **Exhibit List**: The exhibit list shall be e-mailed to the Courtroom Deputy Clerk. A copy of the exhibit list with all admitted exhibits will be given to the jury during deliberations. Government and defense counsel shall review and approve the exhibit list with the Courtroom Deputy Clerk prior to it being given to the jury.
- vi. **Witness List**: Counsel shall submit a joint witness list listing each witness.

 Counsel shall identify witnesses who will actually testify at trial.
 - (1) **Trial Witness Estimate**: The witness list and summary must give accurate time estimates for each witness to conduct direct, cross, redirect and re-cross. Counsel shall include a summary of the testimony of each witness. If more than one witness is offered on the same subject matter, the witness summary should be sufficiently detailed to allow the Court to determine if the testimony is cumulative.
 - (2) The list shall be substantially in the form indicated by the following example:

CASE:	TRIAL DATE:

Witness Name	Party Calling Witness and Estimate	Cross Examiner's Estimate	Description of Testimony	Comments

- vii. **Witness Statement**: The United States Attorney shall file with the Court *in camera* a list of the statements of all witnesses to be called by the government in its case in chief.
 - (1) Such statement shall be filed at least ten (10) days before trial.
 - (2) Such statement shall include the name of the person taking the statement.
 - (3) Failure to file such statement with the Court may, at the discretion of the Court, preclude the presentation testimony of any witness whose statement has been previously taken and available to the government.
- e. If counsel need to arrange for the installation of their own additional equipment, such as a video monitor, overhead projector, etc., refer to the Court website at www.cacd.uscourts.gov under "Services" in order to reserve this equipment so that necessary arrangements can be made.
- f. Before trial commences, the Court will give counsel an opportunity to discuss administrative matters and anticipated procedural or legal issues. During the trial, if there are any matters counsel wish to discuss, counsel shall inform the Courtroom Deputy Clerk.
- g. The trial before the jury shall commence promptly at 9:00 a.m. or earlier at the direction of the Court. Counsel are urged to anticipate matters which may need discussion or hearing outside of the presence of the jury and to raise them during this period, during breaks, or at the end of the day.
- 10. Joint Statement: Counsel shall file their Joint Statement of the Case which the Court shall read to all prospective jurors prior to the commencement of voir dire. The statement shall not exceed one page. The Joint Statement is to be submitted no later than THE WEDNESDAY OF THE WEEK PRIOR TO TRIAL.

- a. Jury Instructions: Counsel must submit proposed SUBSTANTIVE and GENERAL instructions.
 - In those cases where a special verdict is desired, counsel shall submit a proposed verdict form with the jury instructions.
- b. The parties must submit joint jury instructions and a joint proposed verdict form (if a special verdict is desired). In order to produce these joint instructions, the parties shall meet and confer sufficiently in advance of the required submission date with the goal of agreeing upon instructions and verdict forms. The jury instructions shall be submitted as follows:
 - jOINT JURY INSTRUCTIONS, those instructions which are agreed to by all parties; and
 - ii. DISPUTED JURY INSTRUCTIONS, those instructions propounded by a party to which another party objects.
 - iii. Objections to disputed INSTRUCTIONS shall be filed no later than the FRIDAY BEFORE the trial. Each requested jury instruction shall be numbered and set forth in full on a separate page, citing the authority or source of the requested instruction.
- c. The Court prefers counsel to use the instructions from the MANUAL OF MODEL CRIMINAL JURY INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, West Publishing, latest edition. Another suggested source is FEDERAL JURY PRACTICE AND INSTRUCTIONS, Devitt, Blackmar, Wolff and O'Malley, West Publishing Co., current edition.
- d. The Court will send several copies of the jury instructions into the jury room for use by the jury during deliberations. Accordingly, in addition to the filed copies, an extra set of the proposed instructions (the "Jury Copy") shall be submitted to the Court with only the text of an instruction on each page (i.e., no titles, supporting authority,

indication of party proposing, etc.). This will be referred to as the "Jury Copy" of the

- f. Counsel shall *not* approach the Courtroom Deputy Clerk or the witness box without the Court's permission.
- g. Counsel shall return to the lectern when his or her purpose has been accomplished.
- h. Counsel shall not enter the well of the Court without the Court's permission.
- i. Counsel shall rise when addressing the Court. In jury cases, please rise when the jury enters or leaves the courtroom.
- j. Counsel shall address all remarks to the Court.
- Counsel shall not directly address the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, the reporter, or opposing counsel.
- If counsel wish to speak with opposing counsel, counsel shall ask permission to talk to counsel OFF THE RECORD.
- All requests for the re-reading of questions or answers or to have an exhibit placed in front of a witness shall be addressed to the Court.
- Counsel shall not make an offer of stipulation unless counsel has conferred with opposing counsel and reached an agreement.
- o. Any stipulation of fact will require the defendant's personal concurrence and shall be submitted to the Court in writing for approval.
- p. A proposed stipulation shall be explained to him or her in advance.
- q. While the Court is in session, counsel shall not leave the counsel table to confer with investigators, secretaries, or witnesses unless permission is granted in advance.
- r. When a party has more than one lawyer, only one may conduct the examination of a given witness and only that same lawyer may handle objections during the testimony of that witness.
- s. If a witness was on the stand at a recess or adjournment, counsel shall have the witness back on the stand and ready to proceed when Court resumes.
- t. Counsel shall not run out of witnesses. If counsel is out of witnesses and there is more than a brief delay, the Court may deem that counsel has rested.

- u. The Court attempts to cooperate with doctors and other professional witnesses and will, except in extraordinary circumstances, accommodate them by permitting them to be out of sequence. Counsel should anticipate any such possibility and discuss it with opposing counsel. If there is an objection, counsel shall confer with the Court in advance.
- v. Counsel are advised to be on time as the Court starts promptly.
- w. Counsel should not by facial expression, nodding, or other conduct exhibit any opinions, adverse or favorable, concerning any testimony which is being given by a witness. Counsel should similarly admonish their own clients and witnesses to avoid such conduct.
- x. SPEAK UP when making an objection, the acoustics in the courtroom make it difficult for all to hear an objection when it is being made.
- y. Questionnaires: If any counsel wishes to submit a written questionnaire to each prospective juror, s/he shall move in writing for leave to do so, and shall include the proposed questionnaire with the motion. Because the Jury Department needs ample time to arrange for pre-selected jurors to be available to complete a questionnaire, such motion shall be filed not later than nine (9) weeks before the trial date, to be heard not later than five (5) weeks before the trial date.
- z. Voir Dire: At least four (4) court days prior to trial, each counsel shall file with the Clerk and served on opposing counsel any special question requested to be put to prospective jurors on voir dire. The parties need not submit requests for standard voir dire questions, such as education, current occupation, marital status, prior jury service, etc., but should include only proposed questions specifically tailored to the parties and issues of the case.
- 13. Motions and Motion Cut-Off Date: Unless the Local Rules prescribe a different time for filing a particular motion, all pretrial motions and motions *in limine*, except motions governed by Local Criminal Rule 9, shall be filed and served not later than twenty-one (21) days before the trial and set for hearing not later than the Monday eight (8) days prior to

trial at 9:00 a.m., or otherwise allowed by the Court. Counsel's estimate of the time required for presentation of the motion must be set forth adjacent to the caption.

- a. The party opposing the motion shall file a response not later than fourteen (14) days before trial or not later than seven (7) days after service of the motion, whichever is earlier, or as otherwise allowed by the Court. Responding counsel's estimate of the time required for presentation of opposition of the motion must be set forth in the caption of the responding papers.
- b. All criminal law and motion matters shall be filed at Room 178 of the Roybal Building, located at 255 East Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.
- c. Memoranda of points and authorities in support of or in opposition to motions shall not exceed twenty-five (25) pages. Replies shall not exceed twelve (12) pages. Only in rare instances and for good cause shown will the Court grant an application to extend page limitations. No supplemental brief shall be filed without proof of leave of Court. Typeface shall comply with Local Rule 11-3.1.1. (Civil). NOTE: If the Times Roman font is used, the size must be no less than 14; if Courier is used, the size must be no less than 12. Footnotes shall be in typeface no less than one size smaller than text size and shall be used sparingly. Filings which do not conform to the Local Rules and this Order will not be considered.
- **14. Motions to Suppress**: Motions to Suppress must be filed twenty-eight (28) days prior to the trial date and set for hearing one (1) week prior to the trial date at 8:30 a.m.
- of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and the Local Rules. If any party wishes to present material to the Court related to the sentencing, such party must file, or otherwise make available to, and serve opposing counsel/parties and the assigned United States Probation Officer, such information or evidence no later than **two (2) weeks** before the scheduled sentencing hearing. The foregoing notwithstanding, a statement of each party's position concerning sentencing shall be filed, or otherwise made available, and served no later than two (2) weeks before the sentencing hearing and the proof of service shall reflect

service on the Probation Officer. The Probation Officer must be able to prepare and disclose any addendum that may be required in response to new information and/or evidence and/or a party's sentencing position. Failure to timely file or present and serve such information or evidence or statement of position may result in such information not being considered by the Court in imposing a defendant's sentence.

If any item regarding pretrial or trial is not specifically addressed in this Order, the Local Rules and Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure shall be observed.

The Court thanks counsel and the parties for their anticipated cooperation.

DATED:

S. JAMES OTERO UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE